



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING

IN CHARGE OF

EDNA L. FOLEY, R.N.

**RED CROSS CIVILIAN RELIEF.**—The Visiting Nurse Association of Chicago was asked last summer to take care of sick people in the families of enlisted men, by the Civilian Relief Committee of the American Red Cross. So many inquiries regarding this Visiting Nurse service have been received by the Chicago Association that the following letter to a superintendent of a similar association in another city may be of interest. The letter has been read and approved by Marquis Eaton, Director of the Chicago Red Cross Chapter, and Mrs. Katherine Briggs, supervisor of the Home Service Section of the Department of Civilian Relief and formerly with the United Charities of Chicago.

We are making visits in the families of enlisted men for the Civilian Relief Committee of the American Red Cross, at the rate of 50 cents a visit. Some of these cases are referred to us by the Red Cross, others we find ourselves, but as our local Chapter wants it very distinctly understood that the immediate kindred of enlisted men are not recipients of charity, it asked that we make these visits at its expense. Thus far the patients have been comparatively few, in spite of the large number of men who have gone from Chicago. Many of these we would make ordinarily, but as the committee has made this request of us, we send in a monthly statement, just as we do to the Metropolitan and to other corporations.

In addition, we no longer ask for free medical service of physicians, dispensaries or hospitals, but report the patient needing such service to the Medical Department of the Civilian Relief Committee, which makes arrangements for hospital care or sends out a physician.

The enclosed slip shows what information the committee desires. At first more items were required but we both discovered that our records were simply duplications, and were able to reduce the written reports very considerably. We mail one of these slips to the Red Cross in each case, whether or not the family needs medical or material relief. If the case is an emergency, we telephone promptly, mailing the slip later. We have also had prescriptions filled out and once have put in emergency relief. Each time the Civilian Relief Committee refunded the cost to us.

As I understand it, the Red Cross is anxious that it should not be considered a charitable agency. It was organized to aid soldiers in time of war and it quite wisely feels that home aid for soldiers' kindred is as much one of its functions as aid behind the lines. In this way the Red Cross is giving the families something to which they are entitled by virtue of their kinship to the enlisted men, but not private or public relief, as we generally understand those terms. I think that you will find a number of other Visiting Nurse Associations doing the work as we are doing it.

The slip mentioned gives the following information: Surname; first names of father and mother; address; first name, age and color of patient; diagnosis; physician's name and address; date of first visit; how long ill; referred by; home conditions; "Is relief urgently needed? (Specify)"; remarks. This information is printed on a thin slip of paper, index card size. It is headed "Red Cross Medical Service," and on the last line is printed "V. N. A. 1st report to Medical Bureau, Chicago Chapter, American Red Cross." The nurses have been instructed to state on the slip if a Red Cross visitor is already on the case. If the case is found by the visiting nurse or is referred by an outside agency and proves to be in the family of an enlisted man, the slip is made out and mailed to the Red Cross through the main office. If the case is referred to the Association by the Red Cross, the slip is also made out, in order that the visiting nurse service to the family may be recorded in writing. As the cost of supplies has increased considerably during the past year and also because the salary schedule of the Association has been revised upwards twice, the cost per visit of 50 cents will doubtless be changed. The exact price has not been decided upon, but probably 55 cents per visit will be asked. The Chicago Chapter has made excellent arrangements with local medical men and is making arrangements for special Red Cross prescription blanks which local druggists have promised to honor at cost, sending a statement later to the Red Cross. Both medical and material relief are given very promptly. All social work in these families is being done by this division of the Red Cross, such as placing of children, if the mother is sent to the hospital for an operation, re-adjusting households, making dental arrangements, getting institutional care of any sort. The Visiting Nurse Association keeps closely in touch with the Red Cross Bureau and gives merely the nursing service or the instruction made necessary by the physical condition of the patient in the household.

A bill-posting agency has put these up free of charge on bill-boards throughout the city and small slips reproducing this poster have been distributed by the thousands in packages, from the department stores, laundries and other business houses.

**PUBLICITY.**—A good many of our philanthropic agencies are anticipating difficulties in raising their budgets for the year 1918. In Chicago this is being handled by a Publicity Campaign on the part of the Central Council of Social Agencies, an organization representing nearly all of the well-organized and well-known philanthropic agencies in the city. One publicity method has been large posters printed in attractive red and black type on a white background.

## HOLD THE HOME LINES

Save the *babies*Protect the *boys and girls*Nurse the *sick*Help the *poor and aged*

"This is a time of sacrifice, but not the sacrifice of the helpless."—Governor Lowden.

Contribute to

## CHICAGO WELFARE AGENCIES

and help meet

## WAR-TIME NEEDS

Approved by

Illinois State Council of Defense

Chicago Association of Commerce

Central Council of Social Agencies

A series of meetings is being held twice a week at the Men's City Club, in which the various groups of work represented in the Central Council have presented their programs for the coming winter and stated their specific needs. The following groups have already been represented: Settlements, Correction and Legal and Reform Agencies, Children's Agencies and Institutions, Day Nurseries, Relief Agencies, Hospitals and Medical Agencies, Homes for Working Women and Girls, and Homes for the Aged.

The following program of the group representing Hospitals and Medical Agencies may be of special significance for public health nurses who are meeting some of the difficulties which a war year entails sooner than do large city agencies.

Some Home Medical Problems in War Time, Dr. James B. Herrick, president Board of Directors, The Central Free Dispensary; Tuberculosis and the War, James Minnick, superintendent Chicago Tuberculosis Institute; Home Nursing Problems in War Time, Edna L. Foley, superintendent Visiting Nurse Association; Need of Supporting Home Medical Charities in War Time, Lucius Teter, president Chicago Association of Commerce; Boards of Directors and Money Raising, Mrs. Arthur Aldis, president Visiting Nurse Association; Some General Conclusions, John E. Ransom, chairman of the meeting.

Doctor Herrick brought out the fact that dispensary treatment without good follow-up work failed to give the sort of care to patients who most needed it. He emphasized the significance of dispensaries as educational centers for doctors and for medical students and nurses, as well as places where patients are treated. He also spoke of the significance of a dispensary as a community center where class

work for different types and groups of patients could be carried out. The Central Free Dispensary, for instance, is doing some class work with a group of diabetic patients and has for some time conducted a successful baby welfare clinic where medical students are taught the care of well babies; and we all know that tuberculosis classes can be an adjunct of any well-conducted tuberculosis clinic.

Mr. Minnick, speaking of tuberculosis and the war, emphasized the fact that industrial training of both men and women has been carried on much more successfully and thoroughly in the sanatoria of Canada than in the United States, and that our returned soldiers, for whom such institutional treatment might be ordered, would be thoroughly unwilling to take the unbroken rest ordered unless more occupational diversion were worked into it. He also emphasized the need of teaching clinics for physicians on the Exemption Boards and physicians who are serving in our large cantonments. A very successful clinic of this type has just been conducted in Springfield, Illinois.

The other speakers on the program brought out the fact that we could hardly expect the soldiers in the trenches to carry on to the best advantage if our indifference allowed the home lines to be broken down, and every one of the topics presented was carefully elaborated. Of particular interest to all social workers was the assertion of Mrs. Arthur Aldis, speaking of boards of directors and money raising, that paid executives should not be obliged to raise the money which they are afterwards expected to spend, that the board of directors employing this executive should take this burden from his shoulders. This has always been true of the Visiting Nurse Association of Chicago, but the statement seemed to create some surprise, although it was received with unqualified approval by most of the members in the audience.

Various state councils of defense and other local agencies are frequently asked to consider the question of the care of home charities. A series of programs like this, well advertised, to which the entire public is invited, but to which, also, the workers and directors particularly engaged in the social work represented on the program are specifically invited, not only creates much interest, but it increases the number of volunteer workers and the subscription lists, both desirable consummations at this particular time.